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April 25, 2001 LB 536, 600, 620

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Members of the Legislature, here is a...here's an amendment that will save the state some money, so I hope you will give favorable consideration to this amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature, I'm just going to speak to the record for a moment by the way of explanation of vote. I did vote for this measure coming out of the Revenue Committee. I did it because, as I looked ahead to the pieces that were there that might be helpful to rural Nebraska, I had more confidence in this than some of the other pieces. I'm...I'm...I'm...although I have a good deal of sympathy for LB 600, that Senator Coordsen has, I...I'm just not convinced that we have a mechanism that's going to be helpful to rural Nebraska at this point in that bill, so that didn't look like a...a good one. And so I voted for this bill because I thought it would be good for rural Nebraska. In the intervening days, while I was traveling, the LB 620 bill which is essentially a bill that was good for the most part for urban Nebraska, certainly with the Union Pacific piece, was amended with a far more attractive usable component for rural Nebraska, and that bill is I think going to pass and...as best I can guess. So, although I am...I was a voter for LB 536, my blood is now too rich to give in both different ways. And if I have to pick, since that bill is going to pass, I don't want to have to give twice at the office, I'm going to give once and it's going to be in that form, LB 620. So, while I was a proponent in the Revenue Committee, I am not going to vote for the bill now given the success of the Vrtiska amendment on LB 620. I will, however, be assist...I will help on cloture so that people can get, in fact, a genuine vote on the measure. I think that's legitimate. But when the time comes I'll be voting against LB 536. It's not that I wouldn't do something, but I think the body seems to have endorsed a more broad-based form of economic development for rural Nebraska and, if that's the case, I will support them in the form of continuing to support LB 620, even though there's an amendment that I would not have voted for had I been here, but I'll live with that consequence but it does